1. (AMENDED) Apparatus for decoding a datastream of MPEG compatible packetized program information containing program map [table] information to provide decoded program data, comprising:

means for identifying channel map information conveyed within said packetized program information[, said channel map information associating a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted in said broadcast channel]; and

means for assembling said identified information to form a channel map for identifying said individual packetized datastreams constituting said program, wherein

said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map [table] information and said replicated information associates a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel.

13. (AMENDED) A storage medium containing MPEG compatible digital data representing video information comprising:

a video program;

MPEG compatible program map [table] information; and

channel map information contained within said MPEG compatible digital data[, said channel map information associating packet identifiers with individual packetized datastreams that constitute said video program], wherein

said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map [table] information and said replicated information associates packet identifiers with individual packetized datastreams that constitute said video program.

14. (AMENDED) [A storage medium according to claim 13, wherein] A storage medium containing MPEG compatible digital data representing video information comprising:

a video program;

MPEG compatible program map information; and

channel map information contained within said MPEG compatible digital data, said channel map information associating packet identifiers with individual packetized datastreams that constitute said video program, wherein

said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map information and

said channel map information further associates an individual program with a corresponding language type indicator.

16. (AMENDED) Apparatus for forming program guide information suitable for decoding MPEG compatible packetized program information containing program map [table] information to provide decoded program data, comprising:

means for forming channel map information [including information associating a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted in said broadcast channel]; and

means for incorporating said channel map information into packetized program guide information for output, wherein

said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map [table] information and said replicated information associates a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel.

23. (AMENDED) A method for decoding MPEG compatible packetized program information containing program map [table] information to provide decoded program data, comprising the steps of:

identifying channel map information conveyed within said packetized program information[, said channel map information associating a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel]; and

assembling said identified information to form a channel map suitable for use in identifying said individual packetized datastreams constituting said program, wherein

said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map [table] information_and said replicated information associates packet identifiers with individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on a broadcast channel.

24. (AMENDED) A method for forming program guide information suitable for decoding MPEG compatible packetized program information containing program map [table] information to provide decoded program data, comprising the steps of:

forming channel map information [including information associating a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel]; and

incorporating said channel map information into packetized program guide information for output, wherein

said channel map information replicates information conveyed in said MPEG compatible program map [table] information_and said replicated information associates a broadcast channel with packet identifiers used to identify individual packetized datastreams that constitute a program transmitted on said broadcast channel.